

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 99

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Martin Joseph Skinner,  
Sr., of Harriman.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Martin Joseph Skinner, Sr., of Harriman; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Skinner was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Martin Skinner obtained both his Bachelor of Science and his Master of Science degrees from Michigan State University; he also attended Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, in 1944, as a member of the Army Specialized Engineering Detachment, Mr. Skinner went to Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), where he serviced the electrical equipment at Y-12 associated with electromagnetic separation technology. After college, he returned to Oak Ridge to work at Y-12 on stable isotope separation; he later became the patent section head for ORNL, in which position he served until his retirement in 1980; and

WHEREAS, a U.S. patent holder, Martin Skinner was employed by Pitts & Brittan, a patent law firm in Knoxville, after his retirement from Oak Ridge. In addition, he was the co-founder of the Tennessee Inventors Association and held many officer positions; he retired once again in 1999; and

WHEREAS, hardworking and dedicated to serving others, Martin Skinner served on the City Council of Kingston for six years. He was a member of the Kingston Lions Club for more than fifty years and served in all officer positions; he was also a secretary and committee chair of the Lions International District 12-N; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Skinner also was a member of the Holston Rose Society for more than thirty years and an affiliate of the American Rose Society (ARS), which he served for two terms as president and for more than fifteen years as the editor of the ARS monthly newsletter; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Martin Skinner published two articles in the American Rose Society's national magazine and won the top award in a class of ARS publications for a booklet he edited; and

WHEREAS, deeply devoted to his Lord, Mr. Skinner was a longtime member of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Oak Ridge, which he served on the Vestry, as Chalice Bearer, and as a Lector. He was active for more than thirty years in the Episcopal Churchmen of Tennessee and served as that organization's vice president and secretary; and

WHEREAS, Martin Skinner was deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents, Clyde and Frances Skinner; his sister, Fran; his brother, Curtis; and his daughter, Mary; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Skinner is survived by his loving wife of seventy years, Dorothy; his sons and daughters-in-law, Bill and Annie, Bob, Martin Jr. and Robbin, and Mike; his granddaughter, Courtney Licata; and his great-granddaughters, Aubrey and Lindsay Skinner; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Skinner leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Martin Joseph Skinner, Sr., reflecting fondly upon

his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family and many friends of Mr. Skinner.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.